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SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1910.

Home News Away from Home

Washingtonians who leave the city, either for a short or long stay—whether they go to mountain or seashore, or even across the sea—should not fail to order The Washington Herald sent to them by mail. It will come regularly, and the addresses will be changed as often as desired. It is the home news you will want while away from home. Telephone Main 3300, giving old and new address.

Certain Army Retirements.

An army retiring board has been engaged for some weeks on the case of an officer who has been named for transfer from the active list of the military establishment. It so happens that he was not long ago examined for promotion from one grade to the next higher grade, pronounced qualified for the advancement, and received his new commission. He has now been reported as incapacitated for active duty on account of disability, which may or may not have been contracted in line of duty. That is a question which the army retiring board must determine.

It will require much evidence to convince the board, and the delay in reaching a conclusion is due to the fact that the testimony of officers now in the Philippines must be obtained. The results are awaited with interest by officers of the army, because it may establish a policy which has been lacking in such matters hitherto.

There are many cases of the retirement of army officers who are not entitled, by reason of any disability which is attributable to service they have rendered, to be borne on the retired list at government expense. Their incapacity is due entirely to carelessness or intemperance, or other habits which had no relation to the responsibility or hardship imposed upon them in the discharge of their duties. It ought not to be a question which requires much deliberation on the part of a board to justify a recommendation that an officer, in such circumstances, should be wholly retired or, in other words, discharged from the army. That proceeding, of course, is a drastic one and has its implied discredit, but for the sake of officers who do their best and who strive to live up to the standard of proper conduct and the faithful performance of duty, there should be no favor manifested toward those officers who avoid all such obligations.

There is much said in the military-naval service concerning the need of elimination for the benefit of promotion. There are existing facilities to that end without the aid of further legislation to get rid of officers who are really unfit. The trouble is that such officers are too often carried on the active list or transferred to the retired list upon considerations of misplaced sympathy. An officer who has been promoted from one grade to the next higher one has the best sort of claim for continuance on the active list. He must have passed a mental and physical examination to gain his advancement, and the authorities are placed at a disadvantage when, immediately following such advancement, they undertake to retire him.

The contemporaneous case which is engaging the attention of the army retiring board will have its significance to, and possibly its influence upon, that part of the army administration which deals with the military personnel.

Government Economies.

When Senator Aldrich declared that there should be greater economy in the expenditures of the national government, and expressed the belief that \$300,000,000 could be saved annually by economical administration, the statement must have seemed a trifle Utopian to many. Too often have we heard this cry of economy before, only to see expenditures mount up higher than ever.

But this time it would seem that the agitation has already borne fruit, due, it seems, to the efforts, in a business way, of two of the government's younger administrators, Collector of the Port of New York Loeb and Postmaster General Hitchcock. Between them, by economical administration of their offices, they have saved the government—which is the people—about \$22,000,000 during the past fiscal year. In estimating the receipts from the new tariff bill during the first year of its operation credit is given to the reforms at the New York custom-house for an increase in revenue of \$15,000,000—pretty good work for one man.

Postmaster General Hitchcock points out that he has been able to save \$6,000,000 in the cost of handling the mails and

in delivery service, and, in addition to this, has saved \$5,450,000 in the Railway Mail Service. These sums have been saved without the impairment of the service in any particular, and in spite of the fact that the service has been largely extended.

Of course, \$22,000,000 is a long way from the \$300,000,000 mark set by Senator Aldrich, but it is a notable example in economy, just the same. Without knowing, or caring to know, much of the details, the general tax-paying public has been uneasily aware that even in this era of high prices the various functions of government have been carried on in a pretty costly way, and the news of this trend toward economy in operation will be welcome. Not only that; the work done by these two administrators serves to emphasize what may be done when departments are conducted along business principles. An example has been set which should extend rapidly through the governmental service. We have heard already of great economies that have been accomplished by the Treasury Department. If the good work in efficiency and economy keeps up all along the line, that \$300,000,000 a year saving of Senator Aldrich may not seem such a Utopian dream, after all.

Aldrich's Reply to Bristow.

Senator Aldrich's reply to the charges of his colleague, Senator Bristow, seems clear, comprehensive, and quite convincing. The only logical or acceptable explanation of the Kansas case in standing sponsor for charges ill-founded and unsupported by fact is that he was misinformed and misled.

The Rhode Island statesman charitably suggests this explanation.

Progressive Republicanism is not aided by rash speech or unwarranted accusation.

Certainly, it ought to be possible for factions to be in honest disagreement as to the tariff or other economic policies and problems without resorting to calumny or impugning individual motives. In the making of the tariff Mr. Aldrich uniformly showed respect for the views of the minority and constantly manifested a spirit of conciliation and compromise. That he was more influential than his colleagues in framing the bill was due no more to his resourceful and tactful leadership, which even his opponents admire, than to his mastery of tariff details, which everybody has been forced to realize. Where others display superficial or inadequate information, he shows intimate knowledge of the facts.

As we have said, the progressive cause in politics, commonly called insurgency, is not helped by such episodes. Its continued growth must rest upon fair-dealing and fair speech. It may quickly be discredited by rash utterances on the stump by honest but overzealous apostles.

The suggestion of a Massachusetts senator that there may be baseball in heaven is somewhat staggering. How could all the teams win the pennant? And would it be heaven unless all of them did?

One of the things we are not excited about, or even slightly interested in, is whether Gallagher is possessed of a literary taste.

It is somewhat disconcerting to read that an aeroplane has "turned turtle." It is a tax on the imagination to conceive the idea of a flying turtle.

It costs about \$15,000,000 to take the census of the nation. Still, it is worth the money, perhaps, just to find out how fast we are growing.

"Be an optimist!" says James J. Hill. If we had a bunch of railroads the size of Mr. Hill's, we would.

"The prize-fighting game is dead in this country—absolutely dead," says an erstwhile famous pugilist. It certainly is in bad odor, all right.

Mr. Swanson, as the successor of Senator Daniel in the United States Senate, has been generally indignant throughout the whole nation. A lot of papers seem to remember that Swanson made a fine record as governor of Virginia.

"By fraudulent ballots and systematic deception of the people, Gov. Brown was elected two years ago," says the amiable Atlanta Journal. It is painfully evident that "Little Joe" is about to be elected again.

Gov. Patterson is quite mad. He has issued a long statement about the "pernicious intermeddling of a Republican President—Mr. Taft—in the affairs of Tennessee." Gov. Patterson is tireless. The pernicious murder of Edward Ward Carmack is what put Patterson's crowd out of business—and if he does not know it, he ought to.

"Bob" Adamson, Mayor Gaynor's secretary, who is figuring in the limelight somewhat just now, is one of the best and cleverest fellows that ever drew the breath of life. He is a real newspaper man—one who does not know how to do a mean act or think a mean thought. He hails from Georgia, and is glad of it.

Secretary Wilson says we are to have the biggest corn crop on record this year. Now, then, if "Old Benax" does not find that it is full of microbes and things, we shall be very happy, of course.

Writing of two opposing candidates for office in his vicinity, Editor Loyless, of the Augusta Chronicle, says: "Mind you, I do not accuse either of the gentlemen of telling the truth about the other." We should think not! That would be a rash accusation, indeed.

The current issue of the Outlook contains an article by Mr. Bryan, but none by Mr. Roosevelt. Is good Dr. Abbott trying to "josh" his esteemed subscribers?

"Prohibition is merely a form of lunacy," says a contemporary. Well, well, perhaps. A good many folks seem to have gone crazy in this country of late years, nevertheless!

Mr. Balfour's most strenuous "cuss" word is "bother." It seems. "Uncle Joe" must wonder how Mr. Balfour manages to get along with just that one.

Gen. Christmas is back in the Central American revolutionary game again, all right; but those militant heroes, Wos-y-Gil and Urbe-Urbe, seem to have been hopelessly lost in the shuffle.

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Of the fifty-odd nations asked to join in making conservation an international matter, only nineteen have responded, and some of those in a decidedly lukewarm

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

JUST A BILL.  
He lit his cigar with a \$10 bill.  
Was his pocket depleted?  
Not through losing this bill, for its value was nil;  
It was still unrecipited.

On the Train.  
"My wife is a poor one to get her money's worth."  
"How so?"  
"Pays extra to take a scenic route, and then spends the entire trip looking at a bride and groom."

A Narrow Escape.  
"Our new neighbor has sent her kid over to borrow some gasoline."  
"Dear me! I hate to admit that we have no auto."  
"We won't have to. She only wants a little to clean some gloves."

Saving Space.  
"What kind of paper do you want on your flat?"  
"The thinnest possible. These rooms aren't any too large."

A Study Organ.  
Fed on alum and benzole  
Day by day,  
Sure the stomach is heroic  
In its way.

A Complete Switch.  
"These scientists get me all mixed up."  
"What's the trouble?"  
"Now they say the earth damaged the comet."

Working the Kids.  
"I can't get my boy to do anything around the house."  
"We have settled that problem. My kid runs errands for my neighbor, and her boy runs errands for me."

EFFECTS OF TOBACCO.

Carbon Monoxide Most Dangerous  
Constituent of the Smoke.  
From the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.  
It has not been proved that tobacco causes any definite characteristic lesions of the nose, throat, or ear. While it is possible that the excessive use of tobacco may by indirect action produce a toxic effect upon the olfactory and auditory nerves, with resulting impairment of the sense of smell or of hearing, there is not at the present time any definite laboratory proof for such an opinion, nor is there sufficient clinical evidence to substantiate the belief.

The ill effects of tobacco smoke upon existing diseases of the throat arising from other causes is established, and is the same as would be observed from any other form of irritation. That gastric and systemic nervous disturbance may arise from excessive use of tobacco in any of its forms is unquestioned; the nicotine content of tobacco is a recognized poisonous substance, and in the process of smoking there are evolved other injurious chemical products.

Carbon monoxide is probably a more dangerous and injurious constituent of tobacco smoke than is nicotine, only a very fractional amount of which enters the tissues. If there is any more danger to be anticipated from cigarette than from cigar smoking it is to be looked for solely in the inhalation of the smoke; cigarette smoking without inhaling is no more injurious than pipe or cigar smoking, probably not as much so, unless numerous numbers are smoked.

Archie's Young Bride.  
From the Buffalo Express.  
The new bride was telephoning to the ice man.  
"How much do you want?" he asked.  
"Oh—" and she stopped to think.  
"A piece about ten inches long and four wide; just enough to keep this dear little steak till Archie comes home to lunch."

The Difference.  
From the Small County (Kansas) Republican.  
A man likes the things he can chew up or pour into him; whereas a woman likes the things she can hook, button, or pin onto her.

THE BIG STICK

VOL. IV, NO. 13. WASHINGTON, AUGUST 13, 1910. ONE CENT.

THE BIG STICK'S HALL OF FAME—No. 16.

EVERY SATURDAY.

Editor: If you see it in The Big Stick, it isn't necessarily so.

DAILY HEALTH HINTS.

During this sultry weather you cannot be too careful in avoiding mosquito bites. Though they are rarely fatal, they are at times a great hindrance to beauty. I knew a girl once who, after a long period of courtship, had just brought the young man up to the point of proposal, when, carelessly, she allowed a mosquito to bite her nose. Her young man, seeing her next morning, came to the conclusion that her red nose was the result of excessive alcoholic indulgence and broke off the engagement. To prevent mosquito bites is very simple. If you have not a mosquito net safe into which you can crawl at night, and if you are condemned to sleep in an ordinary bed, all you have to do is to mix a lotion composed of two parts kerosene, a dash of camelline, just a medium of alcohol, and a trifle of New Orleans molasses. Rub this over the body, being careful to leave no bare spots, and any mosquito that bites you is sure to do a horrible and lingering death.

In reply to a letter from Blanche I would say: Don't be worried about blackheads, my dear. They are easy to exterminate. You will usually discover them after the morning bath. It is advisable then to put them on the edge of the bath tub and kill them by a blow of the nailbrush. I would only urge you to be sure that you kill, not maim, them. It is cruel to leave them to suffer.

I have been asked to suggest a remedy for cold feet, but considering the fact that the possession of feet of this sort would make any one popular during the summer months, I don't think it advisable to suggest anything that would send the least to the pedal extremities.

In case you are suddenly stricken with pellagra, do not rely upon your household remedies. Take the first train to the summer resort where your family physician is stopping and insist on his attending to business.

NETTIE NADINE.  
CALLED OFF.  
The champion tennis match between E. C. Graham and George White was called off when the score was love three, because White was perspiring so much he feared that his new white flannels might be spoiled.

PICK-UPS.  
Paul Tuppert is enjoying the solitude of a summer beach. George Snider is an earnest advocate of "early to bed and early to rise" while summering in the suburbs.

Read the Bingley Bogle to-morrow.

These Have "Come Back."  
W. P. Litchcomb from Maine.  
Lena Garbo from Baltimore.  
O. E. Field from Insurgency.  
Sidney Bieber from Georgetown.  
J. C. Stoddard from Alexandria.  
Capt. Brian from "Swamp."  
Charles Eckstein from Atlantic City.  
President Coals from Cherry Chase.  
Capt. Leroy Herron from Indian Head.  
Walter Humphrey from Colonial Beach.  
J. P. Hermann from the lakes of Maine.  
Charles Walker from Washington Heights.  
Amelious Eckhardt from Mount Pleasant.  
V. P. Van Winkle from the wilds of Canada.  
Dr. George C. Ober from the Windy City.  
T. A. Wieternham from Chesapeake Beach.  
Rose Adams from the Commercial League game.  
Guy Collins from the state of Wisconsin.  
Dr. Charles A. Stewart from somewhere out West.  
The President is out of town.  
Ed. Walsh, and a tribe of Indians.

CONCERNING JACK.  
Little Jack Horner  
Sat in a corner,  
Eating a piece of pie.  
Up came Dr. Wiley  
And said to him slyly:  
"That stuff contains  
Glucose."  
White sand,  
Um, arbut,  
Coal-tar dye,  
Fuller's earth,  
Essence of soda,  
And 23,877,963,943 germs!  
Which frightened poor Jackie aw!  
FREDERICK HASKIN.

AEROPLANE NOTE.  
Couples honeymooning  
Up and down an airport route  
And being carried—very careful—  
And not fall out!

ODEN HORSTMAN.  
AUGUST.  
The melancholy days have come,  
The saddest of the year;  
The President is out of town,  
But Bedloe Bay is here!  
C. C. ARCHER.

TO-DAY IN HISTORY.

The Battle of Blenheim—August 13.

"And everybody praised the duke,  
Who this great fight did win."  
"But what good came of it at last?"  
Quoted little Peterkin.  
"Why, that I cannot tell," said he;  
"But 'twas a famous victory."

The battle of Blenheim or Hochstadt was fought on August 13, 1704, between the English and Austrians, under the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, and the French and Bavarians, under Marshal Tallard, Marsin, and the Elector of Bavaria. Robert Southey's conversational poem on this battle, between old Kaspar and his little grandchild, Winemine, one of the prettiest in the English language, has helped to popularize this battle in the public mind.

Blenheim is a Bavarian village about twenty-three miles from Augsburg. The battle, however, did not actually take place here, but at a village near by. It was one of the series of battles of the famous war of the Spanish succession. The Duke of Marlborough, with his motley army of English, Dutch, Danes, and Germans, concealing his main purpose, was marching south along the Rhine, with a design to strike his critical blow by attacking the French armies that were forming for the campaign of the Danube, and thus protect the Emperor and Vienna, and punish the Elector of Bavaria, whose territory would be then exposed.

Marlborough and the Prince of Baden, with united forces of about 60,000 men, advanced in rapid marches and took, by gallant assault, the fortifications of Donauworth, a critical and commanding position on the Danube. The allies were now masters of the main passages of the Danube, and had a strong place as a basis of action. The allied leaders thereupon sent troops into the heart of Bavaria and devastated the country even to the vicinity of Munich, burning and destroying as they marched, and taking several minor fortresses.

Marlborough's forces and those of Prince Eugene were distant from each other some forty miles, when came the news of the march of a French army of 25,000 men, under Tallard, to form a junction with the others, to succor the Elector and take revenge for the defeat of the Schellenberg. The French marshals, Tallard and Marsin, were now in command; their design was to attack Marlborough and Eugene's armies in detail. By rapid marches Marlborough crossed

On August 13 the first negro slaves brought to the colonies landed at Jamestown, Va., in 1619. It is the date on which Havana was captured by the English, in 1762, the date when Robert Howe and Christopher Gadsden, in 1775, the United States frigate Essex captured the Alert, in 1812, and the British government opened negotiations with the Confederate States (1861). August 13 is the birthday of Lord Esher (1815); Mrs. Lucy Stone, the reformer (1815); Henry M. Dexter, clergyman and author (1821); Henry L. Abbot, who invented and developed the United States system of submarine mines (1831); Felix Adler, educator and reformer of English, and Emma Eames, the opera singer (1867). It is the date of the death of Thierstein II (182); Dr. Gilbert Stuart, the English historian (1786); Robert Plummer Ward, novelist (1846); and Marshal Niel, of France (1862).

A CAUTIOUS COUNTRYMAN.

From the Popular Magazine.  
As a precaution against members of Congress using the government mails for private purposes at the expense of the Federal treasury, the envelopes in which free garden seeds are sent to constituents bear in one corner this inscription: "Penalty for private use, \$300."

The other day Representative William A. Rodenberg, of Illinois, received the following letter from a farmer to whom he had sent a package of the seed: "Dear Congressman Rodenberg: I return, under separate cover, the seed you sent me, as I would use them for private purposes, and this would make me liable to the three hundred dollars fine."

Notes of the Books.  
"The Rust of Rome," by Warwick Deering. In the first place, the writer has a good story to tell; in the second, he is able to analyze character, with many subtle touches and vivid descriptions, and, in the third place, he knows something of English composition and style, a poverty among present-day novel writers. We are told by his publishers that Warwick Deering is an English physician, who left his practice for the more exciting profession of letters when he found that the reading world was receptive. Certain it is that in this latest book he shows a great deal of power and of understanding of the human heart; besides, he is an archaeologist and nature lover, and these things he weaves in most skillfully. The story tells of Ben Heriot, who has had the misfortune to spend two years in prison. When the story begins he has just emerged from his prison, a discouraged and somber man, who soon begins to think that there is no longer a place for him in the world. But he finds rest and healing in two great passions—the love of the outdoor world and the love of a woman. Eve Thorkell is a delightful heroine, strong, loving, and intelligent, and we are soon engrossed in her discovery of the Roman villa in her own back garden and her efforts to oppose, single-handed, the insolent Burgomeister in his pursuit of herself and her property. Through the story these two threads are woven together—Heriot's fight for a place in society and Eve's contest for her own. The plot is excellent, the love interest satisfactory, the whole novel a refreshing change from the silly and stereotyped novels that flood our shelves. (London and New York: Cassell & Co.)

When Marion Harland was a little girl, child study was unknown, and the infant terrible did not have a chance to be. Perhaps the good old way of never allowing a child to know that he could create a sensation by an innocently frank remark was as good as some modern methods. At all events, it is hard to imagine the following incident occurring nowadays: "At ten years of age," writes Marion Harland in her autobiography, "I asked my mother, point-blank, what salary the church paid Uncle Carus. She answered as direct: 'Three hundred a year. But he has property of his own.' Whereupon, without the slightest idea of being pet, I remarked, 'If we were to get a really good preacher, I suppose he would have to be paid more.' And my mother responded as simply: 'No doubt. But your Uncle Carus is a very faithful pastor.' The quaint sound of that bit of dialogue has for our ears shows how far we have strayed from the serious walk and conversation of our fathers.

When Sir Thomas Dug Ditches. From the Popular Magazine.  
Sir Thomas Lipton, who still thinks he can win an international yacht race, came to this country when he was a very young man and started out as a day laborer on a Southern plantation, where he used to dig ditches.

The daughter of the man who employed him is now a government clerk in Washington.

Pertinent.  
From the Gentlewoman.  
Teacher—Now, boys, here's a little example in mental arithmetic. How old would a person be who was born in 1873?

Pupil—Please, teacher, was it a man or a woman?

Couldn't Stand the Shock.  
From the Atlanta Constitution.  
"I sent a poem to that magazine, and now I hear it has failed."

"Too bad. But maybe they won't sue you for damages."

AT THE HOTELS.

"America is not properly represented abroad," said Prof. J. Nelson Fraser, of the Indian educational service, Bombay, India, who was seen at Engel's last night, and who is touring this country, being on what the professor called "his furlough."

"By not being properly represented, I mean that people abroad, as a rule, know very little about what America is doing for the uplift of humanity, for the education of the masses, the betterment of the lot of the poor, and the making of good citizens of the hundreds of thousands of immigrants that come to its shores every year. People abroad, when they talk about Americans, always bear in mind that their main object in life is chasing the almighty dollar. They would never dream of finding in Chicago sixteen of the most complete playgrounds, night schools for the education of foreigners, and other similar institutions. When you, Wharton Chicago abroad, everybody thinks of the city as having solved the problem of killing hogs most expeditiously; that's about all."

Speaking of American universities, Prof. Fraser said that they are far superior to their European prototypes. He also had words of the highest praise for the primary classes of the public schools, but he has his doubts about the efficacy of the co-educational system. He pointed out in a limited way of the expansion of manual training in the public schools, but had some objections to it on the ground that if manual training were to take the place of classical studies, literature, or languages, the girls would necessarily pursue these studies, leaving to the boys the manual training, which would not be a result to be desired.

"American manners, if you will permit me to say it, and it may be a compliment or not, whichever way you may take it," said Prof. Fraser, "have experienced great improvement, which is a highly encouraging sign. For instance, there is less expectorating on the streets and fewer other equally detestable practices to be seen now than formerly. America is in my mind the land of hope for the future. It is in America that most of the great measures for the uplift of humanity will find their source and origin."

"It is a common mistake," concluded the English pedagogue, "to imagine that America is an Anglo-Saxon nation or race. The only similarity between the English people and Americans is that they speak the same language; that is absolutely all. At the time the Pilgrims landed in this country, and for a few years following, the English were in the majority, but since then millions of Irish, Germans, Italians, Danes, French, Russians, and other nationalities have settled in America, and the result is an entirely new race of people."

Frans X. Bauer, of Vienna, Austria, a merchant of that city, who is visiting this country on business, is at the New Willard. Speaking of the children of the destitute and the Austrian system of dealing with them, Herr Bauer said:

"No child there, in any circumstances, is sent to a workhouse. If it has neither parents nor other relatives who can provide for it, it is adopted by the town and placed under the care of a waisenmutter, if it be a girl, or of a waisenvater, if a boy. Considerable effort is expended to prevent any stigma being attached to these children on account of their destitute condition. They are not called paupers, nor are they regarded in the light of paupers. Many of them attend the national schools, where they mix with their companions upon terms of the most perfect equality. In these schools they are supplied with books free of charge. Special scholarships are offered for their competition, and any child who shows signs of unusual talent is given the opportunity to cultivate it. The university, even, is in full sympathy with public opinion on this point, and in its statute book there stands a decree admitting the sons of pauper parents to all lectures and examinations without the payment of any fees. Scholarships and lectures are, however, only for the very special cases, for the city has no intention of training students. The children who are working and women. The boys are carefully taught some handicraft, while the girls are prepared for domestic service, laundry work, or any suitable calling for which they may manifest an aptitude."

Speaking of old customs at Princeton University, Dr. John B. Sturges, of Springfield, Ill., who was seen at the Shoreham, said that the strict observance of Sunday laws was at one time one of the most important factors at the college.

"A hint that more luxurious habits were creeping into college life is found in the edition of the laws issued in 1892," said Dr. Sturges, "where it is stated that no student shall employ any barber or hairdresser to shave or dress him on the Sabbath. It also states that no student shall keep for his horse or carriage a horse or riding beast, nor shall any student keep a dog or gun or firearms or ammunition of any kind. Ten years later the words sword, dirk, sword-cane, or any deadly weapon whatever were added to the list of contraband articles and remained in the laws for several college generations."

"In the middle of the nineteenth century a new rule appeared directed against horn spears, a form of undergraduate devilment of authority that had not been thought